

Recommendations and Problems

Monthly Reports for August 1958

CARTOGRAPHY DIVISION

FAR EAST COMPILATION BRANCH

25X1X7200310013-1

The map of Afghanistan that has been in the field for an edit [REDACTED] has returned and we will be faced with the problem of meeting a commitment to supply copies to them in return for their cooperation in checking the names and administrative units for us? We intend to print the map with persian script for the use [REDACTED] and in English transliteration for use in this country. There will be a problem of man-hours to accomplish this along with a heavy load of our own. The compiler who has carried this project this far is slated for reassignment in another building for a considerable period of time. It is suggested that his move be delayed until he can organize and secure the completion of this map; the assignemnt of the job to someone else would be considerably less desirable as there would be a loss of efficiency resulting. The compiler mentioned has the only background in the area that exists in this branch and is solely familiar with this project.

SPECIAL SUPPORT BRANCH

During the past few weeks there has developed a need for a rather large map of the Southeast China - Taiwan Area which would be suitable for detailed posting of troops and planes. This need will, I think, continue for the next few months.

GEOGRAPHY DIVISION

The following is quoted from the monthly report of the USSR Branch: The first venture into NIE Contributions has raised a number of questions that would merit some deliberation before the next attempt is made: 1. It was the understanding of GG/S that a contribution was to be uncoordinated, based upon the knowledge and experience of the analyst. The Office of the AD, however, required coordination with the Economic Area. 2. It was the impression that there would be some working level contacts with the NIE staff that would permit amplification of ideas not possible in a "streamlined" edited version. 3. It was not clear how brief the contribution was to be, whether the format was to resemble a finished NIE (at the expense of developing ideas.) 4. Must conclusions always be different or are new ideas contributing to an accepted conclusion considered to be contributions? It is recommended that a modus operandi for contributions to the NIE be established in the Area and, if possible, a briefing be given by a member of the NIE staff outlining the various steps and developments of an NIE contribution.

GEOGRAPHY DIVISION (Cont'd)

EUROPE BRANCH

25X1A9a [REDACTED] reports the loss of 4 requests for document forms by the Library and long delay before the resubmitted request forms got action. He also discovered a misunderstanding on the part of OCR regarding the desires of ORR for routing of overt material. This was called to the attention of [REDACTED] who promised to set the OCR representative straight.

25X1A9a

PUBLICATION STAFF

Currently, D/GG reports printed by Reproduction are sent directly to St/C for distribution. From there, copies are sent to the Division, but they may not be received until several days after the actual distribution date. This procedure has made accurate record keeping difficult for both D/GG and D/GC. The Printing and Reproduction Staff of D/GC has suggested that an unnumbered copy of each report be forwarded to D/GC on the day it is released to St/C. They will record the date and forward it to GG/R, which, in turn, will record the date and immediately notify the front office. The unnumbered report can be regarded as a second proof copy and need not be entered on the St/C distribution list.

The Editor in Chief was notified on 9 July that she would represent the Geographic Area at meetings on editorial format to be called by [REDACTED] of St/C. Nothing further has been heard to date.

25X1A9a During the month, four Contributions to NIE 11-4-58, Main Trends in Soviet Capabilities and Policies, 1958-1963, were released as G/I-259a-d. Of these, only one was considered as appropriate. The others were rejected as not appropriate. For two of the rejects, reasons seemed satisfactory. The editors, however, question the validity of the reason given for the rejection of the third, G/I-259c, Advantages of the Location of the USSR as Regards Warfare Against the United States. Since D/GG is being encouraged to continue contributing to NIE's, the Publications Staff recommends that Ch/G be invited to discuss the problems at a D/GG staff meeting attended by all branch and staff chiefs who may be involved in the preparation of NIE contributions.

FAR EAST BRANCH 25X1A9a

[REDACTED] attended the annual meeting of the AAG at Santa Monica, California. Although tangible benefits of such a meeting are often difficult to itemize, it is felt that intangible ones very definitely justify such trips. The analyst is not only given a break in daily routine but allowed a change to see in what direction academic research is trending. Such a trip is an excellent morale booster.

It is felt that the initial lectures in the OTR Sino-Soviet Bloc course were inadequate in substance and manner of presentation. Apparently, more adequate preparation on the lecturer's part would have corrected these deficiencies.

GEOGRAPHY DIVISION (Cont'd)

NEAR EAST - AFRICA BRANCH 25X1A9a

25X1A9a

25X1A9a

In a recent Area Monthly Report, it was noted that [REDACTED] OS, offered the services of OS in contacting personnel in the field. When the occasion arose to contact [REDACTED] an attempt was made to route the communication through OS. [REDACTED] was contacted and referred the matter to another individual. After the third individual was called in for action and it was determined that this request "was not in their usual line" it was decided that the Office of the Geographer was the proper channel for contact in this instance. [REDACTED] was probably sincere in his offer of assistance, but in this instance his office was confused and ineffective in response to the Branch request. The cable was dispatched by the Office of the Geographer immediately upon receipt of the request. 25X1A9a

25X1A9a

25X1A8a

[REDACTED] made numerous visits to the Branch during the month to extract material to be incorporated in projects he has been assigned to write. On one occasion he presented a short study he had prepared with a request for spot review. The study was based primarily on published material that did not deal specifically with the area in question and as a result the report was overly optimistic regarding the possibility of survival. The Branch considers support for PP conducted in this manner to be unsatisfactory in a number of respects and is calling a friendly halt to pirating of substantive material from Branch resources. 25X1A9a

It was learned that on at least one occasion, [REDACTED] has referred to the UW studies turned out by the Division as "his" studies on which "his people have worked very hard."

25X1A9a

[REDACTED] while on military leave, attended a course on Beach Intelligence given by the US Navy Amphibious Training Center at Little Creek, Virginia. The course, although designed primarily for Navy personnel, is definitely of interest to personnel of the other services. Geographers would find it of particular interest because it includes a review of the nature of hydrographic features and a training exercise that could be characterized as applied micro-geography. 25X1A5a1

More information was received from the [REDACTED] Staff member debriefed this month than is usually gained from the regular debriefings of embassy (including attache) personnel. It is suggested that D/GG personnel would be wise to attend as many debriefings of these Field Staff members as possible. These individuals frequently are much freer to travel throughout their areas of interest than embassy personnel, they often have interests more akin to those of geographers, their sources of information are not limited to official circles as are many of the embassy personnel, and they are freer to express personal observations and opinions.

~~SECRET~~

GEOGRAPHY DIVISION (Cont'd)

COORDINATION STAFF

The additional work load imposed by the Chapter I Annual program results in less time available for the preparation of Chapters IX. At present, the Chief of the Coordination Staff is carrying both the Section 19 and the Chapter I Annual programs, and has little if any time to spend on the coordination of Chapters IX. With the present staff, only two analysts are available for Chapter IX coordination. It has been proved in the past that it is impossible for one analyst to complete 4 Chapters IX in 1 year, and the FY 1959 schedule is unusually heavy.

A problem has developed in recent months concerning corrections to be made to the ACIC graphics. Mr. Platshon of ONI has reported that ACIC has either ignored or has refused to make some of the changes recommended by our office and by OBI; also that they have in several instances made changes not suggested by CIA. During August, the corrected graphics for NIS 77 were received from St. Louis without some of the changes that Mr. Buoncristiani had agreed to in conference. We examined the graphics with Mr. Platshon, agreed that the changes requested by CIA were necessary ones, and decided that the graphics should be returned to ACIC for further work.

MAP LIBRARY DIVISION

None.